



How are bridges rated?



- The Safe & Sound program requires that all bridges in the program be a minimum Condition 6 (Satisfactory) at the end of the initial construction period – Dec. 31, 2012.
- The bridges will also need to be no worse than Condition 6 at the end of the maintenance period, which is to be a minimum of 25 additional years.

DEFINITIONS

Structurally Deficient – A structure that is in relatively poor condition or has insufficient load capacity.

Functionally Obsolete – A structure that has poor roadway alignment or has clearance or width restrictions that no longer meet the usual criteria for the system it serves.

RATING INFORMATION

- 9** – Excellent condition.
- 8** – Very good condition – no problems noted. Potential exists for minor preventive maintenance.
- 7** – Good condition – some minor problems. Potential exists for minor maintenance.
- 6** – Satisfactory condition – structural elements show some minor deterioration. Potential exists for major maintenance.
- 5** – Fair condition – all primary structural elements are sound but may have minor section loss, cracking, spalling or scour. Potential exists for minor rehabilitation.
- 4** – Poor condition – advanced section loss, deterioration, spalling or scour. Potential exists for major rehabilitation. Blocking or shoring may be necessary as a precautionary measure.
- 3** – Serious condition – loss of section, deterioration, spalling or scour have seriously affected primary structural components. Local failures are possible. Fatigue cracks in steel or shear cracks in concrete may be present. Repair or rehabilitation required immediately.
- 2** – Critical condition – advanced deterioration or primary structural elements. Fatigue cracks in steel or shear cracks in concrete may be present or scour may have removed substructure support. Unless closely monitored, it may be necessary to close the bridge until corrective action is taken. The need for repair or rehabilitation is urgent. Facility should be closed until the indicated repair is complete.
- 1** – Imminent failure condition – major deterioration or section loss present in critical structural components or obvious vertical or horizontal movement affecting structure stability. Bridge is closed to traffic but corrective action may put back in light service. Facility is closed. Study should determine the feasibility for repair.
- 0** – Failed condition – out of service – beyond corrective action. Facility is closed and beyond repair.